Syllabus

This course provides a broad overview and analysis of U.S. foreign policy since the founding. No prior background in international relations is assumed. Students will broaden their understanding of the history of U.S. foreign policy, explore the roots and challenges facing the current liberal international order, and develop analytic tools necessary to understand future U.S. foreign policies.

Readings

Most of the reading for this course are in the following books, available at the UCSD bookstore. Note that two books may be accessed electronically through the UCSD library web portal. In addition, more contemporary topics towards the end of the quarter are covered mostly in articles. All are available online through the UCSD library web portal.


Walter LaFeber, The American Age: U.S. Foreign Policy at Home and Abroad, 1750 to the Present (Second Edition). New York: W. W. Norton, 1994. Make sure you purchase the complete, one-volume edition; at one point, they sold it as two separate volumes (founding to civil war, then 1896 to the present).


Grades

Grades for this course will be based on 1) daily iClicker quizzes (25 percent), 2) two response papers (25 percent each), and 3) a final exam (25 percent). All assignments are subject to UCSD’s academic integrity standards (see below).

At the beginning of each class, there will be iClicker “warm up questions” on the reading assigned for that day. The three lowest daily scores on the warm up questions will be dropped, with the remainder graded on the percentage of each day’s questions that are answered correctly. **Students are required to purchase and bring their own iClickers to class every day.**
All students must bring their own “blue books” and take the final exam at the scheduled time.

Missed deadlines or exams may be made up only after a Doctor’s note is submitted explaining why you were too ill to submit the paper on time or take the exam. No exceptions.

**Teaching Assistants**

D. G. Kim ([dak110@ucsd.edu](mailto:dak110@ucsd.edu))  
Office: SSB 331  
Office hours: Monday 11 AM – 12 PM and Tuesday 2-3 PM

Nathan Mariano ([nathanmariano@ucsd.edu](mailto:nathanmariano@ucsd.edu))  
Office: 332  
Office hours: Thursday 3:45-4:45 PM

**Course Webpage**

This syllabus and appropriate links are available on the course webpage at [https://quote.ucsd.edu/lake/teaching/ps142a/](https://quote.ucsd.edu/lake/teaching/ps142a/). The slides from lecture will be available before class on this page as well. It is recommended that you download the slides before each lecture to facilitate note taking. The slides are not a substitute for lecture.

**Contact Information and Office Hours**

Contact information is at the top of the syllabus. I welcome students to visit during office hours. I keep a signup sheet posted outside my office. These times often get booked in advance, though I will see drop-ins if time allows. If you cannot make my office hours, I can meet by appointment at other times.

I am also happy to answer questions by email. Before emailing any professor, however, you may want to read the following: [https://medium.com/@lportwoodstacer/how-to-email-your-professor-without-being-annoying-af-cf64ae0e4087](https://medium.com/@lportwoodstacer/how-to-email-your-professor-without-being-annoying-af-cf64ae0e4087) In terms of my own practice, I typically respond well to “David” or “Professor Lake,” whichever you are comfortable with. If I do not answer your email within two days, please feel free to resend it, as it means that your first email arrived at a bad time and slipped off my radar screen.

**UCSD Academic Integrity Policy**

Integrity of scholarship is essential for an academic community. The University expects that both faculty and students will honor this principle and in so doing protect the validity of University intellectual work. For students, this means that all academic work will be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind.

All suspicions of academic misconduct will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office according to university policy. Academic misconduct is not just blatant cheating (e.g., copying off another student during an exam), but what you might have thought of as "minor cheating" in
high school, for example: copying other students' papers or homework; copying or using old papers/report; working with others on individual assignments; forgetting to cite material you took from an outside resource; turning in work completed in total or part by another. The Policy on Integrity of Scholarship (academicintegrity.ucsd.edu) lists some of the standards by which you are expected to complete your academic work, but your good ethical judgment (or asking me for advice) is also expected as we cannot list every behavior that is unethical or not in the spirit of academic integrity.

Those students found to have committed academic misconduct will face administrative sanctions imposed by their college Dean of Student Affairs and academic sanctions imposed by me. The standard administrative sanctions include: the creation of a disciplinary record (which will be checked by graduate and professional schools); disciplinary probation; and attendance at an Academic Integrity Seminar (at a cost of $75). Students can also face suspension and dismissal from the University; those sanctions are not at my discretion. Academic sanctions can range from an F on the assignment to an F in the class. The appropriate sanctions are determined by the egregiousness of the Policy violation. Students who assist in or are complicit with cheating could also be in violation of the Policy. Thus, students who become aware of their peers either facilitating academic misconduct or committing it should report their suspicions to me for investigation.

Jan. 8 and 10: Themes and Theories: The American Imperium

Ikenberry, Chapters 1-3, pp.1-117
Lake, Entangling Relations, Chapters 1-3, pp.3-77

Jan. 15: Empire of Liberty

LaFeber, Chapters 1-5 (pp.5-155)

January 17 and 22: Informal Empire in the Caribbean

LaFeber, Chapters 6-8, pp.157-267

January 24: World War I and the League of Nations

LaFeber, Chapters 10-11, pp.302-366
Lake, Entangling Relations, Chapter 4, pp.78-127

First Response paper assigned, due January 29

January 29: World War II and the Origins of the Liberal International Order

LaFeber, Chapters 12-13, pp.369-454
Ikenberry, Chapter 5, pp.159-219

January 31: The Cold War: Origins and Outbreak

LaFeber, Chapters 14-15, pp.457-577
Lake, *Entangling Relations*, Chapter 5, pp.128-197

**February 5: The Cold War: Crises and Détente**

LaFeber, Chapter 16, pp.536-577

**February 7: Vietnam**

LaFeber, Chapter 17, pp.580-630

**February 12: Catch-up Day**

**February 14: The End of American Hegemony**

LaFeber, Chapter 18, pp.633-677

*Second response paper assigned, due Feb. 19 and must be submitted via Turnitin.com*

**February 19: The End of the Cold War**

LaFeber, Chapters 19-20, pp.680-781

**February 21: The New World Order**

Lake, *Entangling Relations*, Chapter 6, pp.198-262

**February 26: The Backlash to Empire and the War on Terror**

Ikenberry, Chapter 6, pp.221-277

**February 28: Democracy Promotion and Statebuilding**

Lake, *Statebuilder’s Dilemma*, Introduction, Chapters 3 & 4, pp.1-21, 69-100, & 153-194

**March 5: Iraq**

Lake, *Statebuilder’s Dilemma*, Chapter 4, pp.101-152

Jeremy Pressman, Power without Influence: The Bush Administration’s Foreign Policy Failure in the Middle East, *International Security* 33, 4 (2009), pp.149-79. Available at: http://web.ebscohost.com/ehost/results?vid=1&sid=53c2570b-565d-4090-a300-45f0936b0b07%40sdc-v-sessmgr03&qin=en+JN+%22International+Security%22+AND+DT+20090301&t=y&bdata=aJmRiPWE5aCZ0eXB1PTEmc2l0ZT1laG9zdC1saXZ1

**March 7: Populism at home and abroad**


March 12: The Rise of China


March 14: The Future of the LIO

Ikenberry, Chapters 7 & 8, pp.279-360.


Jeff D. Colgan and Robert O. Keohane, The Liberal Order is Rigged: Fix It Now or Watch It Wither, *Foreign Affairs*, 96, 3 (May/June 2017), pp.36-44. Available at: https://www.heinonline.org/HOL/Page?public=true&handle=hein.journals/fora96&div=60&start_page=36&collection=journals&set_as_cursor=0&men_tab=srchresults


Final Exam: Tuesday, March 19, 2019: 11:30-2:29 PM (location TBA)